

Board Meeting Minutes
LWV Pullman
October 22, 2019, 10:00 am, Daily Grind, Back Room

Attending: Susan Daniels, Sue Hinz, Deb Olson, Bobbie Ryder, Alice Schroeder, Paul Spencer, Judy Stone, Libby Walker, new member, Todd Marley.

Call to Order and Welcome: The meeting was called to order by President, Bobbie Ryder, at 10:00 am.

Routine Business: Bobbie reminded the group of the League's non-partisan policy. The September Board Meeting minutes were approved without further correction. The next board meeting will be Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 10:00am at the Daily Grind.

Old business and Updates:

Fall Calendar: Bobbie will post the Fall Calendar to Facebook. Note that Judge Libey has been rescheduled for the March 17 brown bag.

The November Brown Bag will be on food security with Ashley Vaughn from the Community Action Center. Mary Collins is the organizer. Brown Bags are in the Neill Public Library's Hecht Room this year.

Poverty Awareness Task Force: Judy Stone represents LWV Pullman. This is a group of most of the local service agencies. It was reported that WSU has 130 students who were homeless in High School and entered into a program that will assist them through college. CAC is planning to put together a housing board to think outside the box on local housing issues. There was also discussion of how to get more information out to the Pullman homeless, such as putting kiosks in the parks with social service information. City councilman, Brandon Chapman, is encouraging the City to form a Human Rights Commission. CAC provided a list of resources from the Community needs assessment at the last Brown Bag. Judy also noted that the Community Relief Fund needs donations. This fund is supported by donations. The police and CAC can use the fund for immediate needs such as a bus ticket or a hotel. Vouchers, but no money are given. Since the Pullman League supports the fund, Judy will write a letter to the editor for us pointing out the need for donations.

Candidate Forums: The forums were well attended with 40+ people in Colfax and 59 in Pullman. There was good press on the radio and in the papers. A room larger than the Hecht room is needed in Pullman. Libby talk to Amy Pillof on the possibility of changing the ruling that prevents us from using the larger space in the Library. We can use the City Council chambers. The cost has been \$75 and has included taping. It was decided that with our successful fund drive (see Treasurer's report below), we could easily afford this next year.

Issues Forums: Sue Hinz reported that she was unable to get both pro and con speakers so we will have League members read the information on the initiatives from the Voters' Pamphlet. The LWVWA allowed one exception. Scott Adams, CEO of the hospital can speak and answer

questions about the hospital bond. A League member will gather points in opposition and read them. Scott will respond to them.

Working with North West Public Broadcasting: Alice Schroeder visited with NWPB staff at their community meet and greet. They were pleased to have a representative of the League there. Several members of the staff expressed enthusiasm for working with the League on short spots on voting and sources of information for voting, including advertising forums. Libby Walker will pursue this.

Pre-Land Development Proposal: In response to public concern about current development being approved before the public is aware of it and Councilman Brandon Chapman's interest in this issue, Alice Schroeder discussed the ordinance the League presented to the City Council in 2007 to require a well-advertised public meeting as part of large development proposals. This was not given a hearing at that time. It seems this would be a good time to suggest this again. The board agreed. Alice will make sure the ordinance is still legally valid and a committee of Alice, Paul, Susan and Libby volunteered to meet with Council Members.

New Business:

Centennial Celebrations:

“2020 The Musical” by Carol Dunitz. League has been asked if we would like to support this. With two other events and the Rob Curley speech, it was decided that we did not have time or people power to take on another project.

Whitman County Library currently has a “Women Voting” exhibit.

Pullman Conservation Park: Land across from the high school that goes down the valley towards the river, known as Conservation Park, now has a paved path and The Phoenix Conservancy is working with local volunteer groups to restore a healthy native prairie landscape. Currently, the site has degenerated into 90% invasive species. A meeting will be held Sunday, Oct 27 at the Tap Room Brewery by the City Playfields for those interested in learning more or volunteering.

Reports:

Treasurer: Treasurer Paul Spencer reported that we have \$6176 in checking and \$3,152.54 in the Ed. Fund for a total of \$9,328.54. At this time last year there was \$4963 in Checking and \$2430 in the Ed. Fund, a total of \$7,393.

Community Outreach: Libby Walker reported that we are getting upcoming events and articles on the Forums in the papers.

Social Media: Bobbie is posting the articles on Facebook.

Voter Services: Deb Olson reported that, with the help of Paul Spencer and Anne Lewis, she was able to present our program on voting to all 3 High School Civics classes on Monday, Oct. 7. Twenty eight students registered to vote. The League registered two voters at the food bank on Oct 10 and will have a registration table at the Senior Center on Friday, Oct. 25.

Bobbie reported that we still have 100 issues of the Your Vote pamphlet published by the Spokesman Review with the LWVWA. In order to get them to the rural areas, Susan will take some to the Colton schools. Deb delivered around 50 to Whitman County library. Kristie will put at least 2 copies in all 13 branch libraries. Copies were given to the two civics teachers at Pullman High School and school Library, and Neill Public Library.

TWIL: Judy noted that there will be a concurrence for a LWVUS position on Election Systems at the National Convention. This will be based on studies done by various state Leagues including Washington. We need to present this material and discuss it at our National Planning Brunch in January.

Nominating Committee: This position is still vacant. Let Bobbie know if you could do this.

Chamber luncheon: A sign-up sheet was passed around. Alice Schroeder will attend on Nov. 12. Bobbie Ryder will not be able to attend the Dec 10th Chamber Christmas Party, because of conflicts. We should have good attendance on behalf of LWV if possible. It is a good party! More info to come. This is a fun way to get publicity for the League. Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month. Please let Deb Olson know if you can attend one.

Membership: We have 4 new members including a high school senior.

Upcoming Events:

Action Workshop: The workshop is Nov. 2 in Spokane. Alice Schroeder, Paul Spencer, Susan Daniels, Helen Catanese, Bobbie Ryder and Todd Marley will attend. Paul has offered to drive.

Rob Curley speech: This talk, co-sponsored with the Edward R. Murrow College of Communication at WSU, will be at 7:00pm in Goertzen Hall, 425 Veterans Way on the WSU campus. There will be a social hour at 6:30pm.

December 5 General Meeting: 6:30pm at the Lutheran Trinity Church. Holiday Cookie Exchange and program to be decided. It would be a good idea to do a presentation on election systems in preparation for the planning meeting in January, if someone can put that together.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Schroeder, secretary